

C apital City Capers



The News Organ of the Capital City Squares
P.O. Box 19986, Sacramento, CA 95819

JUNE 1990

June is Bustin' Out All Over!

March went out like a lion,
A-wippin' up the water in the bay.
Then April cried
And stepped aside,
And along come pretty little May!

May was full of promises
But she didn't keep 'em quick enough for some,
And a crowd of doubtin' Thomases
Was predictin' that the summer'd never come!

Summer has indeed busted out all over Sacramento. We have graduated a Mainstream class and a Plus class. The Board has planned 5 Fun Dance Nights and 3 Potluck /Pool Parties for our summer delectation. Lots of fun for the long hot days and nights of summer in Sacramento.

However, summer culminates in the New Members Hoedown on August 25th. Therefore, now, not August, is the time to start recruiting new members. We should enjoy our summer, but we also need to think ahead.

With that in mind, we are reprinting an article by Michael Foft from the July 1989 issue of the Capers:

It is absolutely essential for the continued survival of the club that we have a new class of beginners each fall.

To provide these new members, all must work at recruiting friends and associates, but the onus really falls on the most recently graduated Mainstream class. The reason for this is that most of the rest of us who have been around for more than a couple of years have totally browbeaten as many of our friends as we possibly could. (It took three years for Bob Koski to finally convince Bill and me to join).

Last year Bill and I did the following and suggest you try the same:

But it's comin', by gum!
Y'ken feel it come!
Y'ken feel it in yer heart,
Y'ken see it in the ground!

Y'ken hear it in the trees,
Y'ken smell it in the breeze—
Look aroud, look around, look around!

—"Carousel" Oscar Hammerstein II

We sent a copy of our flyer regarding the Beginners Hoedown in August to a long list of our friends. On it we added a personal note and followed up with a phone call. Then additional phone calls were made prior to the beginning class in September. (Four members of this year's class are friends of ours—so the idea must have some merit.)

We have plenty of flyers available—please take as many as you need. Give it some thought and get started on your friends as soon as possible.

And then you can be Angels for all your friends in the new class!

—Michael



Summer is indeed upon us (ignore that downpour out there folks; it's just a fluke...). Without waxing too maudlin/melancholy, I gotta say it's been a great year! As the new class settles into its "expertise" as full Mainstream dancers (with a vengeance!), I can only congratulate you on your hard work, perseverance, and patience! You've done well; you're ready to press on! This class, our newest full members, has produced a solid core to help the club build in the years to come. It is exciting to watch, to be a part of ... to be able to think about a solid, exciting future for the club inconceivable less than a year ago. It's wonderful. You've been great — thank you all.

The Plus class — a small but mighty group of dedicated and very understanding individuals. I know it's been trying for you at times; I thank you for being so big-hearted (what choice had you?). I refer to those (numerous?) occasions when the Mainstream class has used up a significant portion of your allotted time, thereby reducing your dance time. It has been difficult for the instructors to weigh this evenly — the needs of the larger class (are you overwhelmed by being out-numbered almost 10 to 1 by the new class?) against the expectations of the smaller. You did well, anyway, finishing the course in jig (okay, square dance) time. I thank you again for your efforts and your patience. You've been a great group.

The Board members, old and new — if the club in general had any real idea of the extra time/energy/work put in by these people ... the casual suggestions that have been put into motion, brought to fruition; the ideas that have been considered, discussed, cursed, and then either discarded or finalized. This group has worked. I need to note that nothing, be it the opening new member hoedown, the schedule of weekly classes and bi-weekly Fun Dances, the additional hoedowns and workshops, the Retreat, or getting your shirts and badges, nothing just happened. The Board members deserve accolades for the work done! I do thank each of you, Board, and all, collectively, for your hard work, perseverance, and support.

Our instructors, Karl, Kris, and often Robin, have also put in a great year of solid, effective teaching. Each has a unique style, a "method to the madness" not always evident, but nearly always useful and effective. Each of us owes each and all of them a great deal of thanks for taking the time and energy to teach us to dance. They put in a lot of time outside class preparing each week's lesson, yet with the versatility to drop the lesson if more work is needed elsewhere. It isn't easy; it is appreciated. Thanks, Karl, Kris, and Robin, for your never ending dedication!

Well, Summer Schedule. Starting Tuesday, June 19th, we will be dancing every 1st and 3rd Tuesday of June, July, and August at Joseph's Town and Country — Business 80 at Howe Avenue ('n' back up two blocks ...) from 7 to 9. That's June 19th, July 3rd and 17th, and August 6th and 20th. (Boy, summer sure went quickly!) [But soft! We are still negotiating for a downtown dance location as this issue of the Capers goes to press. ED.]

Freedom Fair — Saturday, June 16th,

at McKinley Park. Thanks in advance to all who are helping — especially to Kenric for moving into the fore on this and supplying awning, chairs, table ... THANKS!! (As it turns out, I won't be in town. Aw, Gee!)

Gay Pride Eve — Saturday, June 23rd, a MS/Plus dance in S.F. at St Paulus Church. Details elsewhere in this issue (huh, Bill?). Be there! If you need housing, contact James at (415) 647-3219 ASAP.

New Member Hoedown — Saturday, August 25th at the Coloma Center. Bring friends, family — anyone who might be even remotely interested. Come one, come all! The more, the merrier (and it's free!).

Potluck/Hoedowns: We have three planned for the Summer.

July 21 — Rich and Rick — Folsom

August 12 — Angie (Bill and Michael) — Citrus Heights

September 15 — Kenric and Rory — Auburn

Plan to attend these zestful, festive events! Swimming, dancing, pigging-out (pig-outing?) — it's all gonna be there! So, you be there, too!

Well, I'm sure I didn't get it all, but I sure filled some space!

Thanks, folks, for a great year — it ain't over yet and we'll dance through the summer and on into next season ...

Meanwhile,

See ya dancin'

George Fox

(Boy, did he talk this time!)

June Board Minutes

May 31, 1990

Once again Bill, Michael, and Angie hosted our board meeting. Others in attendance included David Levy (WELCOME!), Fred, Kenric, Rich, Rick, Karl, George, Kris, and Cindy. We started talking at 6:45 pm with a discussion of how George got poison oak at Fife's last weekend!

We then chatted about next year's calendar. We will schedule hoedowns on the following dates: August 25th / Beginners Hoedown; December 8th / New Class Level Hoedown; February 2nd / Banner Dance; April 19-21 / Fife's Retreat; June 8th / Graduation Dance. June 14-16th is the convention in Miami.

Karl will do the calling for the August 25th dance. He will contact Joe Kula and Jett Roberts about the December and February dances. We need to book them now.

We were saddened to learn that we are probably not going to have the services of Karl much longer. He has been offered a job in Washington, D.C. It is a three year commitment (and he won't commute to teach!). We will miss him, but wish him and David the best. We discussed options for instructing the new class. We will ask Harlan if he is available to teach one Tuesday a month and then ask Robin to review/teach the other three. As for the Plus class, Del wants to learn to instruct/call, so Kris will work with him this coming year. Kris suggested that the club purchase Harlan's self-teaching calling program. We agreed to do so. This way, others interested in learning to call could do so too.

The Freedom Faire was next on the agenda. Kenric will check to make sure we have a space reserved. He also has an awning and table that the club can use for our booth. Fred also has tales that we could use. Bill will

design a flyer and sign-up card to be given out at the faire. Karl will contact Joy and Margaret to see if we can get the history books for use at the faire too.

We actually got formal about our next discussion. Michael moved and the voice from the floor (alias Karl) seconded that Kenric (who volunteered) be appointed to help Joy and Margaret with the history books. It passed.

We very briefly discussed the fact that the club needs to seriously consider incorporation. It was tabled until George obtains more information.

As of now, Rick is the club treasurer, and Mary Jo will become the secretary. We will ask Art and Jeff if they are still interested in doing the sodas next year, and if Glenn would still like to do the water. David Levy will also be in charge of all contracts. George is still the "CEO," and Bill retained his editorship of the newsletter.

There will be 5 summer dancing sessions at Joseph's. We will dance the 1st and 3rd Tuesdays of the month. We have 3 potlucks scheduled too. Rich and Rick will host one July 21st; Bill and Michael will do one August 12th; and Kenric and Rory will be hosting one September 15th (in Auburn).

Karl belongs to a square dance tape/record club that lets people preview items for sale. It costs \$42/year. He wondered if the club would be interested in continuing this. He will check into how we could take it over.

David L.'s prize for designing the new banner was discussed (after he left). We don't want to spoil the surprise, so I can't tell you what it is!

Michael offered a money-making idea to the Board: picking up ballot boxes in November. (It would help pay for Harlan.) He will get us more information.

Speaking of money, the club has \$887 (minus \$100 deposit for Colma Center in August).

Our next board meeting will be held by the pool at Kris and Cindy's on June 28th at 6:30 pm. The meeting was over at 8:25 pm.

Respectfully submitted for the last time,

Cindy Sullivan

[While these are Cindy's last Board minutes, we wholeheartedly hope to continue to have the benefit of her counsel to the Board. ED.]

Capital City Capers The News Organ of the Capital City Squares

Editor, Bill McCrory

The views expressed in this Newsletter are not necessarily the views of the CCS board

Class/Club Dues:

\$90 a year

\$10 a month

Due on the 15th of the month

Newsletter only: \$12 a year

Capital City Squares Board of Directors

George Fox, Chair

Mary Jo Semmelmayer,

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Rick Arts, Treasurer

Bill McCrory, Newsletter

David Levy, Contracts

Kris Corbridge, Plus Class

Instructor

Karl Murray, Basic/Mainstream
Class Instructor

Joy TeSelle & Margaret Coelho,

Club History

Kenric Brown, History Liaison

Coming Events

June

8-10 Toronto Fly-in, Triangle Squares, Toronto
9 Prelude to Summer, Capital City Squares, Sacramento
16 Freedom Day Fair, McKinley Park, Sacramento
23 Gay Pride Dance, Western Star Dancers, St. Paulus Church, San Francisco

July

4 4th of July Angel Island Picnic, Western Star Dancers, San Francisco
4 Load the Boat II, Times Squares, New York
6-8 Ride the Tide, South Florida Mustangs, Miami
14 MS/Plus Dance (Roger Loney), Western Star Dancers, San Francisco
20-22 Zoom to the Rockies, Rocky Mountain Rainbeaus, Denver
21 Potluck/Dance/Pool Party, Rich and Rick's, Folsom

August

4-11 Celebration 90, Gay Games III, Vancouver, B.C.
12 Potluck/Dance/Pool Party, Bill and Michael's, Citrus Heights
17-19 Geo-Duck Jamboree VII (Norm Poisson, Harlan Kerr, Anne Uebelacker), Puddletown Dancers, Seattle
18 Benefit Dance for PWA, San Francisco IAGSDC Clubs, San Francisco
25 New Member Hoedown, Capital City Squares, Coloma Center, Sacramento

September

2 Rainbow Festival, Sacramento
7-9 Chicago Crossfire 2, Chi-Town Squares, Chicago
15 Potluck/Dance, Rory and Kenric's, Auburn
15 Anniversary Dance, El Camino Reelers, San Jose
21-23 Leather Weekend, San Francisco
28-30 Camp Cazadero Retreat, Western Star Dancers, the end of a long road above the Russian River

October

12-14 Balloon Fiesta Fly-in, The Wilde Bunch, Albuquerque
12 Take No Prisoners Plus Dance, Western Star Dancers, San Francisco
13 MS/Plus Dance (Steve Edlund), Western Star Dancers, San Francisco
30 WSD Halloween Dance, San Francisco

November

23-25 7th Anniversary Fly-in, Stars Across the Border, Vancouver, B.C.

December

7 WSD Christmas Dance (Paul Waters), San Francisco
8 Workshops/Potluck/Hoedown (Joe Kula), Capital City Squares, Sacramento
15-30 No square dancing in Sacramento, Bill and Michael in Hawaii

January, 1991

18-20 Swing Thru Arizona, Desert Valley Squares, Phoenix

February

2 Workshops/Potluck/Hoedown (Jett Roberts), Capital City Squares, Sacramento

March

16 WSD 9th Anniversary Dance (Paul Infanti), San Francisco

April

19-21 Russian River Retreat, Capital City Squares, Fife's, Guerneville

June

8 Graduation Workshops/Potluck/Hoedown, Capital City Squares, Sacramento
14-16 Cast a Shadow in the Sun, 8th IAGSDC Convention, Miami

June Birthdays

6 Del Powell
15 Anthony Dasso
25 Gerry Garcia
26 Bob Koski



Opinion Page

Sometimes our club members wish to express opinions and ideas about topics, events, and controversies of concern to them and to others. Here is a space for club members to have their concerns and opinions aired to the club as a whole in a spirit of free and lively exchange. It is hoped that this forum of club member opinion can be constructive and free of rancor. Your newsletter's editor invites all club members to contribute to this forum.

What's In a Name? or A Pet is a Girl is a Follow is a Belle

At the Vancouver convention, a number of our club members were assaulted by violent square dance lexicographers who proclaimed that "pet" is a dog, cat, bird, or reptile, but not a square dance partner. And there are straight clubs that dance by definition who eschew the terms "boy," "girls," "gent," and "pet." Should we follow their lead (pun intended?) and the Hitlerian dictates of other IAGSDC club members in a (I think) vain attempt to de-sex square dancing? (I once attended a dance where there were "eagles" and "hawks" — that was really confusing!)

Let's get our priorities straight (pun definitely intended!). Clarity, not politics or semantics, should be the most important thing in square dance terminology. "Beau" and "belle" have the same initial consonant sound and can be confused. "Lead" and "follow" don't sound alike but "lead" and "head" are similar enough to cause some confusion. And "follow" is just plain had to say. Besides, there are no "leads" or "follows" in square dancing.

The easiest to say and differentiate between is "boy" and "girl." And I hope those of us who've had to substitute "significant other" and "friend" and "partner" for "spouse" or "girlfriend" or "boyfriend" won't get hung up on the idea that the terms are juvenile or degrading. Somewhere in between ar "gent" and "pet" that are clear and less emotionally charged.

If we change our terminology, what will happen if someday we are welcomed at straight square dances where the "gent" or "boy" and "pet" or "girls" terminology is used, and we break down the square because we can't make the translation? Let's use whatever terms are clearest and easiest, and hang the hang ups! C'mon, let's dance!

— Robin Alpenglow

To: Tom Tripp, Chairman, IAGSDC

My lover, Bill McCrory, and I went to Vancouver (our third convention), and as always, had a wonderful time. Thanks to you and the Board for your efforts in making the I.A.G.S.D.C. such a great organization.

I had an idea while in Vancouver that I feel is worth pursuing. Lynn Patton (formerly of El Camino Reelers) and Mary Ann Murphy were active in our Sacramento clubs prior to moving to Eureka and founding the Sequoia Ocean Waves, whose members are all college students. With a total membership of eleven, nine were at the convention. How many other clubs, with the exception of our hosts, had that high a percentage of attendance?

It seems to me that many of our clubs may have all but saturated the market for beginning new classes. We dance at the local bars, advertise new classes in the local gay press, and generally try to have a high profile with all the established gay groups (MCC, AIDS Foundations, street fairs, etc.). In all the cities where there is a club, isn't it possible that most mainstream gay people are by now aware of our existence?

But how many, if any, clubs have tried recruiting at the college level through their various "gay student" groups? This may be a totally untapped market with almost unlimited potential, plus an always "full pipeline"! For example, just here in the Sacramento area we have U.C. Davis, Cal State Sacramento, and four junior colleges, most of whom undoubtedly have a gay students group, and I know that our club has not approached any of them.

I would like to propose the following:

- we contact Mary Ann and Lynn to learn how to approach the college gay community
- based upon their input, we should develop a set of guidelines to be used
- we should disseminate this information to all member clubs
- this should be completed by mid-summer, so we can approach the students in Aug/Sept when they are returning to campus and most clubs are starting a new beginning class

Certainly, because of their schedules, part-time jobs, family commitments, and limited finances, many of them would be unable to attend fly-ins and conventions, but they could be an enthusiastic infusion of energy at the local club level.

Bill and I will do whatever "footwork" you think is necessary (we could prepare the guidelines and mail them to all clubs), but I didn't want to go off half-cocked prior to your counsel and approval.

So, let us know what you think.

— Michael J. Foft

News Tidbits

Kenric Brown's article on "Angels" in the March 1990 issue of *Capital City Capers* was reprinted in Western Star Dancers' *Quarterly Selections*, Spring 1990. Other IAGSDC club newsletters have reprinted articles by Robin Alpenglow, Michael Foft, Rich Beddow, and yours truly. Capital City Squares is proud of our writers and the wider circulation of their efforts.

Western Star Dancers are hosting a Pre-Parade Hoedown with Paul Waters on Saturday, June 23, from 7:30 to 10:30 at the St. Paulus Lutheran Church, Gough and Eddy Streets in San Francisco. It will be a Mainstream and Plus dance with a \$5 charge at the door. Go down for the hoedown and stay over for the parade, but if you want WSD to provide accommodations, call Jamesat (415) 647-3219 as soon as possible.

Charles Bridges called a very spirited series of workshops and a hoedown Saturday, June 9th, for our special Graduation Celebration. In atten-

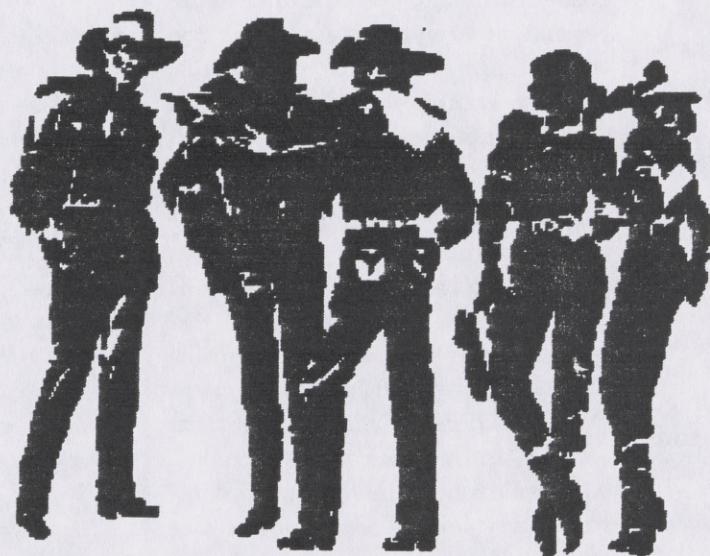
dance were several people from the bay area. We enjoyed having them and we think we showed them a good time. Sorry to relate, out of the 27 graduating Mainstream dancers in our club, only 15 deigned to show up. I guess the summer has started early. They missed a very good time and lots of good eats!

Capital City Squares will have Summer Fun Dance Nights throughout the summer at Joseph's Town & Country Inn at Business 80 and Howe Avenue in the north area from 7 to 9 pm on the 19th of June, the 3rd and 17th of July, and the 7th and 21st of August. Come keep your dancing skills up and have fun at the same time. Don't let yourself get rusty over the summer.

Three Potluck/Poot Parties are planned for this summer. The first will be held by Rich and Rick at their home in Folsom on July 21st. The second will be held at Bill and Michael's home in Citrus Heights on August 12th, and the third will be held in Auburn at Kenric and Rory's place on September 15th. Come for eats, dancing, and swimming (or wading).

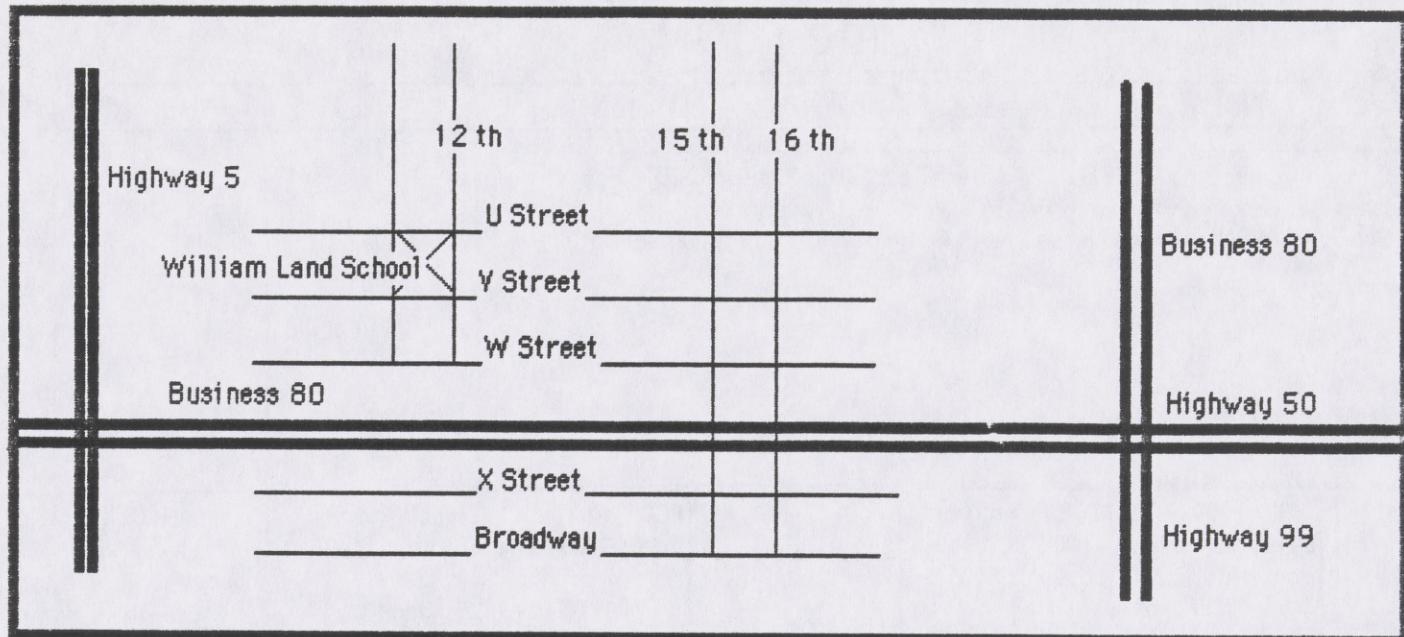
In connection with the above, as an extra added attraction, there will be filming at the party at Bill and Michael's on August 12th. Some of you may be aware of the continuing soap opera/drama/saga, "Crossfire," that Scott and John of Western Star Dancers have been producing over the last few years. "Crossfire" stars "Stephanie," who has been filmed being mugged in New York, shot in Vancouver, and soon to be drowned in a pool in Citrus Heights. Will her wig float or just clog up the pool filter? Come to the party to find out. We may be able to convince Scott and John to hold a showing of the completed segments of "Crossfire."

Don't forget to attend the Freedom Fair at McKinley Park on Saturday, June 16th from 10 am to 7 pm. Capital City Squares will have a booth there. Come help us recruit new dancers for next September's New Class.



June 1990

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
ECR - El Camino Reelers EVRC - Eureka Valley Recreation Center FCD - Foggy City Dancers MS - Midnight Squares WSD - Western Star Dancers Summer Schedule for Midnight Squares and El Camino Reelers not available at press time.						
					1	2
WSD 7:30-9:30 EVRC SF Prime 8's 7:00-9:00 Wm Land School	CCS Fun night 7:00-9:00 Joseph's T & C			FCD Club Night 7:00-9:00 The Corral SF	Scoot Back To Toronto FLY-IN Triangle Squares Toronto Joe & Anne Uebelacker	Graduation Workshops & Hoedown 10am-10pm Wm Land School Scoot Back To Toronto FLY-IN Triangle Squares Toronto Joe & Anne
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Scoot Back To Toronto FLY-IN Triangle Squares Joe & Anne Uebelacker	WSD 7:30-9:30 EVRC SF Prime 8's 6:00-9:00 Wm Land School			FCD Club Night 7:00-9:00 The Corral SF		
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
WSD 7:30-9:30 EVRC SF Prime 8's 7:00-9:00 Joseph's T & C Bus 80 & Howe	CCS Fun night 7:00-9:00 Joseph's T & C			FCD Club Night 7:00-9:00 The Corral SF		Pre-Parade Dance, WDS, St Paulus Church 7:30-10:30
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
Gay Day Parade in SF	WSD 7:30-9:30 EVRC SF Prime 8's 7:00-9:00 Joseph's T & C			FCD Club Night 7:00-9:00 The Corral SF		
24	25	26	27	28	29	30



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